

**NEW ERA ACADEMY**

**603/1930/6 NEA Level 5 Diploma in  
Speech and Drama**

**Specification**

**June 2017  
(Updated July 2020)**

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## Specification at a Glance

Specification at a Glance				
Qualification Title	Total no of units	Framework Level	GLH	TQT
603/1930/6 NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and drama	2	5	40	1000

Assessment	
<b>Form of assessment</b>	All assessment is by external assessment. Candidates should register through their teacher or (qualification discipline) school for assessment which will be carried out by an NEA examiner.
<b>Examination Format</b>	The unit specifications contain the title, learning outcomes (what has to be learnt) and assessment requirements (evidence on which the candidate is assessed). (See Appendix 1)
<b>Bands of Assessment</b>	There is one band of attainment, pass.
<b>Quality Assurance</b>	Quality Assurance ensures that all assessments are carried out to the same standard by external assessment of candidates' work. A team of external examiners is appointed, trained and standardised by NEA and the qualifications conform to the normal quality assurance procedures and processes operated by NEA.

## SECTION A: Qualification Summary

Welcome to the specification for NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and Drama.

This specification is designed to give teachers and candidates practical information on the above qualification run by NEA.

If you have any general queries about these qualifications or any other NEA qualifications, then please do not hesitate to call us on 01903 246790 or email us at [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk)

### **A.1 Aims and broad objectives**

The NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and Drama aims to:

- provide recognition of a progressive training programme for performers
- provide opportunities for the certification of professional development and specialised training
- provide a regulated qualification that is recognised by the wider teaching and learning and performing arts sector
- provide a relevant and challenging syllabus that encourages a standard of knowledge, research and performance consistent with Level 5

## **A.2 Pre-requisites for the qualification**

Candidates must have achieved at least Grade 8 in a speech and drama related or other appropriate qualifications at level 3 or above.

Candidates should be at least 18 years old.

To maintain the currency of the qualification, candidates will be required to complete all elements of the qualification no more than two years from first registration.

## **A.3 Progression**

The NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and Drama provides recognition of speech and drama skills, knowledge and understanding at an advanced level, by providing candidates with opportunities to demonstrate high level skills, knowledge and understanding of performance through a practical examination and a dissertation.

From this qualification, candidates can progress to further training and development or qualifications including the Level 6 Diploma in Speech and Drama.

## **A.4 Qualification Structure**

A NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and drama consists of a range of elements including a practical demonstration of performance skills, knowledge and understanding and a dissertation.

The qualification has 40 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and a Total Qualification Time of 1000 hours.

## **SECTION B: Assessment Information**

### **B.1 Assessment Methodology**

The underlying philosophy for assessment is that candidates should receive credit for positive achievement, and that all should be encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

All assessment of these qualifications is external and is undertaken by NEA Examiners.

### **B.2 Expectations of Knowledge, Skills and Understanding**

Candidates are expected to have experience of speech and drama and the expectation is that they will have already gained a formal qualification in a related area which is at least level 3 in standard.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate high level skills, knowledge and understanding of performance, through practical demonstration and a dissertation. The expectation of skills, knowledge and understanding will be broadly equivalent to the second year of an honours degree programme although it is acknowledged that this qualification focusses on speech and drama only.

All elements of the qualification will need to be achieved in order for the qualification to be awarded. Candidates are required to achieve the whole qualification no more than 2 years from initial registration.

### **B.3 Quality Assurance**

The NEA Level 5 Diploma in Speech and drama is assessed by examiners who are trained, standardised and monitored by NEA.

## **SECTION C: Candidate Access and Registration**

The qualifications will:

- be available to everyone who is capable of reaching the required standards
- be free from any barriers that restrict access and progression
- offer equal opportunities for all wishing to access the qualifications

Candidates will be expected to have achieved a qualification in a related area which is at least level 3 prior to registering for this qualification.

Please email [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk) for details about registering candidates for NEA examinations.

## **SECTION D: Complaints and Appeals**

Please see [www.neweraacademy.co.uk](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk) for details about how we operate our complaints and appeals procedures.

## **SECTION E: Equal Opportunities Policy**

NEA is committed to a comprehensive policy of equal opportunities in the management of its qualifications in which individuals are selected and treated on the basis of their relevant merits and abilities without regard to race, religion, colour, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation, and are given equal opportunities within the company. The aim of this policy is to ensure that no candidate entering an examination receives less favourable treatment on grounds not relevant to good candidate practice.

Our equal opportunities policy can be found [www.neweraacademy.co.uk](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk).

## **SECTION F: Contacts & Support**

**New Era Academy (Speech and Drama)**  
**2, Aglaia Road**  
**Worthing**  
**West Sussex**  
**BN11 5SN**

**Telephone Number: 0330 133 1885**

**Email: [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk)**

**Website: [www.neweraacademy.co.uk](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk)**

## **Appendix 1: Syllabus and guidance for candidates**

### **1. Assessment**

The assessment for this qualification consists of:

#### **Unit 1 – Speech and Drama**

A practical examination demonstrating the candidate's skills, knowledge and understanding of speech and drama.

#### **Unit 2 - Dissertation**

A dissertation of 2500 words on an aspect related to a given topic (please see Section 4 below for further information).

### **2. Unit 1 – Speech and drama**

This unit has 30 Guided Learning Hours.

The learning outcomes for this unit are that candidates will be able to:

- Present a complex repertoire showing confident and sustained performance skills which engages the audience
- Critically analyse the repertoire and performance in discussion

Learners should:

1. Perform from memory a prose selection of their own choice as prescribed by the syllabus. (Time limit 4 minutes)
2. Perform from memory a scene arranged for one character from a play of their own choice. (Time limit 4 minutes)
3. Speak from memory a poem (or part of a poem) as prescribed by the syllabus. (Time limit 4 minutes)
4. Read at sight passages of prose and poetry given by the examiner.
5. Give a talk on any aspect of speech and drama chosen from a list of three subjects given by the examiners 15 minutes before the examination.
6. Discuss with the examiners:
  - Social, cultural and historical contexts of the pieces chosen.
  - Physical and vocal preparation for the pieces.

### **4. Unit 2 – Dissertation**

This unit has 10 Guided Learning Hours.

The learning outcomes for this unit are that candidates will be able to:

- Research and critically evaluate an aspect of Speech and drama
- Present the evaluation in an appropriate format

Candidates will be required to submit a dissertation of 2500 words. The dissertation should have as its focus an aspect of speech and drama and should reflect the interest of the candidate, for example, the history of the sonnet or an aspect of the work of a playwright/novelist or poet in which you are particularly interested.

Candidates should submit proposed dissertation titles to the Examinations Director for approval before commencing work on the dissertation.

The dissertation should be presented using appropriate formatting:

- A cover page which shows the candidate's full name, the title of the qualification and the date of submission
- The dissertation should be word processed and presented in Times New Roman in size 12 font, single sided A4 pages and one and a half line spacing
- All pages numbered
- All references and quotations should be acknowledged using the Harvard Referencing System

The word count excludes the cover page, references, bibliography and any appendices.

Both the candidate and their teacher/mentor should confirm the authenticity of the dissertation in writing by completing a cover page which is available to download from the New Era website.

Plagiarism is defined as "The failure to acknowledge sources properly and/or the submission of another person's work as if it were the candidate's own." New Era reserves the right to disqualify a dissertation in which there is evidence of plagiarism.

#### **4. Awarding the qualification**

All units of the qualification must be passed in order to achieve the qualification.

For each unit a minimum of 75 marks must be obtained.

The criteria for successful completion of each Unit are as follows:

##### **4.1 Unit 1**

The candidate gave a confident and sustained performance of speech and drama of complex repertoire which was engaging for the audience. The introductions and linking narrative were informative, the candidate communicated clearly and confidently to the audience and the meaning, mood and atmosphere was clearly and confidently conveyed throughout the performance.

##### **4.2 Unit 2**

The candidate presented a well researched and presented dissertation which offered a well-developed argument and analysis into the specialist area covered. The candidate was able to make reasoned judgements which were supported by appropriate sources and evidence.